

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

7 May 1945

MEMORANDUM

TO: Files

STATINTL

FROM: [REDACTED] 1st Lt., A.C.

SUBJECT: Payment of Per Diem Compensation During  
Travel Time

1. The question has been raised whether a person intermittently employed by OSS on a "when actually employed" basis may receive his per diem compensation of \$50. during the time he is travelling from his regular place of business to Washington, D. C. Travelling expenses to and from his place of business are authorized to be paid in accordance with the Standardized Government Travel Regulations by the "National War Agency Appropriation Act, 1945" approved 28 June 1944.

2. This question was considered in 22Comp. Gen. 392, 24 October 1942, wherein it was held that it is a matter of contract and that per diem compensation could be paid during travel time from and to the home of the employee if specifically so provided in a contract. "However, in the ordinary case under an appointment, an employee would not be entitled to compensation under such circumstances but only for duties performed at his designated post of duty or while in an authorized travel status away from his post of duty."

3. It is a general rule that salary does not begin until the actual rendition of service. 24 Comp. Gen 391, 18 November 1944. Therefore, it would appear that unless there is a specific contract, no per diem compensation may be paid a WAE employee until he actually enters upon the performance of his duties and he may not be so paid during travel time from his regular place of business to his duty station, even though his travelling expenses to and from his home may be paid under the OSS Appropriation Act, cited above.

STATINTL

